

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 through 6 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method of optimizing market and institutional risks in foreign currency exchange hedging, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a VaR calculator;

determining an optimization procedure to be used;

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using the VaR calculator and the optimization procedure to determine an efficient frontier line on which optimal portfolios will exist in two-dimensional space; and

selecting a range of the optimal portfolios; and

choosing between the optimal portfolios in the range based on trade-offs between institutional risk and market risk of losses due to hedging.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of selecting comprises selecting the VaR calculator based on judgment of its suitability for calculation of the institution's foreign currency exchange risk.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of determining comprises determining the optimization procedure based on a user's judgment of each method's efficiency in finding optimal solutions for the application at hand.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of using comprises using management judgment to choose between tradeoffs based on in total portfolio risk and hedging risk.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of choosing comprises choosing by senior management.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer implemented method of optimizing market and institutional risks in foreign currency exchange hedging, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a VaR calculator;

determining an optimization procedure to be used;

using the VaR calculator and the optimization procedure to determine an efficient frontier line on which optimal portfolios will exist in two-dimensional space; and

selecting a range of the optimal portfolios; and

choosing between the optimal portfolios in the range using management judgment between trade-offs in total portfolio risk and hedging risk.